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REFERENCE:

ATTACHMENT TO L-4810
2 FEBRUARY 1968
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KHE SANH MILITARY COMPLEX
SOUTH VIETNAM
1639N 10644E

(SEE NPIC BRIEFING BOARD L-4809)

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS THE KHE SANH MILITARY COMPLEX,
WHICH IS USED AS A BASE FOR OBSERVATION AND INTERDICTION OF ENEMY
INFILTRATION ACTIVITIES.

2. LOCATION:

KHE SANH MILITARY COMPLEX IS LOCATED AT 1639N 10644E ALONG
ROUTE 9 WHICH CROSSES THE LAOS/SOUTH VIETNAM BORDER APPROXIMATELY 9NM
WEST OF THE COMPLEX.

3. BACKGROUND:

THE ANTICIPATED ACTION AT KHE SANH BEGAN WITH ROCKET AND
MORTAR SHELLING OF THE AIR BASE ON THE MORNING OF THE 21ST. ¹

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THE BASIC PLAN, AS RECOUNTED BY THE RALLIER, WAS "TO FORCE
U.S. TROOPS OUT OF SOUTH VIETNAM THROUGH NEGOTIATION.

BEGINNING WITH KHE SANH, EVERY U.S. BASE BETWEEN THE LAOS
BORDER AND CON THIEN IS TO BE TAKEN BY TET. BY LIBERATING QUANG TRI
PROVINCE A POWERFUL NEGOTIATING POSITION WILL BE ACHIEVED." THE EFFORT
WAS "SO IMPORTANT" THAT IT WAS CONTROLLED DIRECTLY BY THE NORTH

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NGA review(s) completed.

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VIETNAMESE DEFENSE MINISTRY. 2

THE THREAT TO THE KHE SANH AREA REMAINS SERIOUS. ENEMY OPERATIONS ON 27 AND 28 JANUARY, HOWEVER, WERE RELATIVELY MINOR, CONSISTING OF SOME MORTAR FIRE ON THE BASE AND ABOUT 20 ROUNDS OF 122MM ROCKET FIRE ON U.S. MARINES OPERATING IN THE VICINITY. FRIENDLY CASUALTIES WERE LIGHT. 3

4. MISSION READOUT:

[REDACTED] DEPICTS THE KHE SANH MILITARY COMPLEX. PORTRAYED ON THE LARGE MOSAIC IS THE AREA AROUND KHE SANH WHICH INCLUDES XOM CHAM AIRFIELD AND THE COLLOCATED U.S. MILITARY BASE.

INSERT, [REDACTED] DEPICTS THE KHE SANH VILLAGE. INSERTS, FRAMES [REDACTED] RESPECTIVELY, DEPICT HILLS 881 AND 861. BOMB CRATERS AROUND BOTH OF THESE OUTPOSTS INDICATE THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED VERY CLOSE AIR SUPPORT.

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- 1 DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN 15-68, 22 JANUARY 1968 (SECRET)
- 2 DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN 17-68, 24 JANUARY 1968 (SECRET)
- 3 DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN 20-68, 29 JANUARY 1968 (SECRET)

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**KHE SANH MILITARY AREA
SOUTH VIETNAM
16-39N 106-44E**



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